

3629



7/19/02 not a letter  
EP  
7-24-02

Practitioner's Docket No. DP-305538

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application

of \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor(s)

for \_\_\_\_\_

Title of invention

the specification of which is being transmitted herewith

OR

In re application of: Yasumasa Mizukoshi et al

Application No.: 09 / 976,345 Group No.: 3629

Filed: October 12, 2001 Examiner:

For: CONSTANT VELOCITY JOINT OF TRIPOD TYPE

**RECEIVED**

**JUL 23 2002**

**GROUP 3600**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10\***

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Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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Signature

Date: July 16, 2002

Nicole R. Schmoltz

(type or print name of person certifying)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 1 of 6)

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant within any one of the following time periods:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
  - (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;
  - (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits; or
  - (4) Before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114."
- 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) each inventor named in the application;
- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(d).

### List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement; discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☐ Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. ☒ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☒ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
  - 7A. ☒ ~~EPO Search Report~~ International Search Report
  - 7B. ☐ English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections \_\_\_\_\_, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 2 of 6)

**Section 1. Preliminary statements**

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

## Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under § 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of:

- (i) Each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent;
- (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed;
- (iii) For each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion. . ."

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

*(complete the following, if applicable)*

- ☐ Exception(s) to above:
  - ☐ Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.
  - ☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

(Information Disclosure Statement—Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying  
This Statement [6-1]—page 5 of 6 )

**Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement**

The person making this statement is

*(check each applicable item)*

- (a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(type name of inventor who is signing)*

- (b) ☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))

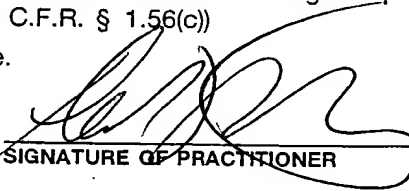
\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(type name of inventor who is signing)*

- (c) ☒ the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information:

*(check each applicable item)*

- ☒ supplied by the inventor(s).  
☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application. (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))  
☒ in the practitioner's file.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Robert L. Stearns

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(type or print name of practitioner)*

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(Information Disclosure Statement—Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 6 of 6)